

REMARKS

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Independent claim 1 has been canceled. A new independent claim 22 has been submitted to avoid any indefiniteness. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Claims 1-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimbo et al., USPN 6,760,840 filed 8/26/1998. As pointed out above, independent claim 1 has been canceled and a new independent claim 22 has been submitted.

Applicant respectfully refers the examiner to the discussion of Shimbo and the present claims in Applicant's Response to the Office Action of July 28, 2006 that was filed on October 30, 2006. The examiner's Response to Arguments in the Final Action of January 11, 2007 points out, in reference to various distinguishing aspects of the invention, that no such language is found in the preamble or limitations of the independent claim that would describe the functionality in applicant's arguments. Independent claim 22 includes language directed to the establishment of administration levels that manage different layers. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-2 and 14-15 have been canceled and many of the pending claims 3-21 have been amended. New claims 22-25 have been submitted for consideration. No new matter has been entered.

In the event there are additional charges in connection with the filing of this Response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the Deposit Account No.09-0447/DE920010119US1 of the firm of the below-signed attorney in the amount of any necessary fee.

Respectfully submitted,

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